

METHODS FOR PERCUTANEOUS SURGERY

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods for performing surgery in a patient through a single cannula are shown. A device is provided which includes an elongated cannula sized for percutaneous introduction into a patient. The cannula defines a working channel between its ends for access to a location in the patient. A clamp assembly is removably engaged to the cannula. The clamp assembly allows use of an endoscopic viewing system or can be removed to allow use of a microscopic viewing system in order to view the surgical site in the patient through the working channel. Methods are provided for performing spinal surgeries percutaneously, including insertion of vertebral fixation elements and fusion devices.